

REMARKS

Claim 20 is pending in the application. Claim 20 has been amended to recite “a mouse ortholog of SFRP1.” Support for this amendment can be found in the specification as filed, for example, at paragraphs [0025] and [0034], and at Table 4, at page 72. Applicants submit that no new matter is added with this amendment.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

According to the Office Action, the specification allegedly does not provide support for “...a method comprising the step of comparing the expression of “SFRP1 (SEQ ID NO:15 mRNA)” in kidney samples of a mouse...” Also, as indicated on page 3, the Office Action further indicates that the mouse SFRP1 mRNA shares only 26.8% identity with SEQ IDNO:15.

Solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution of this case, claim 20 has been amended to recite “a mouse ortholog of SFRP1.” In light of this amendment, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and allowance of the claim as amended.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is now ready for allowance. If the Examiner has any outstanding issues, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent.

Although Applicants believe that this response is timely filed, please treat any reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission as containing a request therefore for the appropriate length of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 01-1425.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Restrepo-Hartwig
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 52,163

Wyeth
Patent Law Department
Five Giralda Farms
Madison, NJ 07940
Tel. No. (973) 660-6383